



AMAA NEWS

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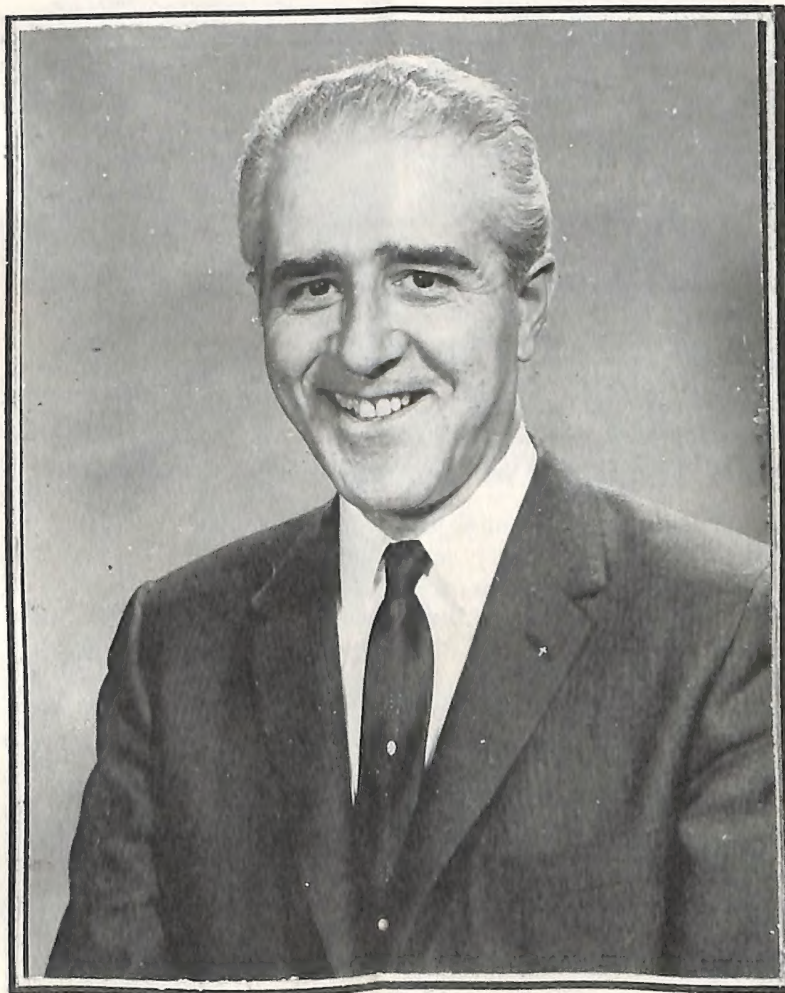
Editor Dr. G. H. Chopourian

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**This Issue Dedicated to the
Rev. Dicran Y. Kassouny, M.D.**



405-88

KEEP THE FAMILY LIGHTS BURNING

—Harry M. Missirlian



The Rev. Harry Missirlian

TB. His imaginary mother came to see him, but it was too late. He died of love starvation.

We all want to be part of a family. Quite often we do not appreciate what our family means to us until it is too late.

In the New Testament we read about the faith of a young man named Timothy who eventually became Apostle Paul's best and most faithful companion but that faith was passed on from his grandmother to his mother and then to him. Here was a family where the light of love and faith had been kept alive for three generations. No wonder that family had stability and strength.

In the Ozark Mountains they were building a dam. The people whose lands were to be submerged moved out very reluctantly. An old man who was living alone in a dilapidated home refused to move. He said from the days of the Revolutionary War his forefathers had lived in that house and kept the fire in the hearth burning all year round. He would not let the light of his forefathers be extinguished. He sat by the fireplace and refused to move. The authorities finally decided to move and relocate him while he still sat by the fireplace inside the house with the fire still burning. Every home should have a fire of love burning like that perpetually.

Here in the San Joaquin Valley, we speak a great deal about underground water reserves without which the valley will turn to desert. Our government speaks of stockpiles. Oil companies depend on reserves. Families need such reserves of love too. When great crises come we need to draw from such reserves, but such reserves don't just happen. They have to be replenished, resupplied perpetually.

A high school girl wrote about her home: "My home is more than four walls and a green roof and a cement foundation, my home is love and warmth and comfort and happiness. I guess it isn't any different from other homes: the water softener is broken, the roof is leaky, the paint is cracking, the sidewalk is uneven, and we have trouble with the furnace. No, it isn't any different from thousands of other homes, but it's the place I love best because in it live the people I love best. A house is made of stone and bricks and wood and plaster, but a home is made of human hearts, of tears, laughter and of deep understanding. I thank God that mine is just what it is."

I wonder whether that could be said about your home and mine?

Think about your family light. Is it burning or is it extinguished?

May contains Mother's Day; June Father's Day. Let's call them Family Emphasis Months.

**No problem is too big for God's power
No person is too small for God's love!**

DEDICATION

Numerous persons wrote or telephoned to suggest an issue of the AMAA NEWS be dedicated to Dicran Kassouny. The Editor was happy to have these confirmations of his own decision to do so.

Dicran Kassouny's services to the Armenian Missionary Association of America were extensive. He was President of the Association for two consecutive years between 1960-1962, as well as holding the office of Vice President. Since his arrival in the United States back in 1948, he was on the Board of Directors of the Association with the exception of only a few years. His involvement was heightened by his membership on numerous Committees but more importantly on the Executive Committee of the Board which meets ten or more times a year, carrying the same rights and privileges as meetings of the Board of Directors.

He was Editor of the Armenian-American Outlook for ten years in which he wrote lucid editorials and began a series entitled "The Saga of the AMAA" in which he attempted to bring together the 60-year history of the AMAA.

During the last two years, by special request, he founded and conducted the Sacred Music Singers choir, the original of which he conducted in Beirut in the late 1930's and early 1940's. The newly-established U.S. SMS gave three concerts which were highly applauded by the public.

All the way from Istanbul, to the Middle East, to the U.S.A., Dicran sowed seeds of service, song, love and healing. In truth and in worth Dicran came to be called the Albert Schweitzer of the Armenian Evangelicals in view of his superb talents in the Ministry of the Gospel, and the fields of Music and Medicine.

No matter what we here on earth might do or say, we cannot properly reward him for what he was and did in this world but we are assured that God will reward him with the crown He has set aside for him. We on this earth, however, are grateful for all that he was for all of us—a friend, a colleague, a servant!

DICRAN Y. KASSOUNY: REMEMBRANCE, CELEBRATION AND TESTIMONIALS

—By G.H. Chopourian

The Rev. Dicran Y. Kassouny, M.D., died in his sleep on March 23 after having rehearsed the Sacred Music Singers, a group he directed, the evening before. The choir of the Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus, New Jersey, was also practicing that evening under his direction before Dr. Kassouny returned to his home in North Tarrytown.

A Service of Remembrance and Celebration was held at the Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus on Sunday, April 1 at 4 p.m. Expressions of gratitude were given by Dr. G.H. Chopourian on behalf of the AMAA; George Philibosian on behalf of the AEUNA; John G. Keuhnelian, M.D., on behalf of the SMS; and Norman S. Cooper, M.D. on behalf of the Veterans Administration Medical Center. A message in Armenian was given by Dr. G.H. Chopourian, a message in English by the Rev. Vartan Hartunian, and a eulogy by the Rev. S.K. Sulahian.

Other participants in the program were the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji who carried out the responsive reading; the Rev. Karl Avakian who read the scriptures in English and Armenian; and the SMS composed of the members of the Armenian Martyr's Congregational Church, the Armenian Evangelical Church and the Armenian Presbyterian Church who presented three anthems as the SMS singers. These were anthems Dicran Kassouny had taught and they were the following: "Surely He Hath Borne Our Griefs" (G.F. Handel); "Since By Man Came Death"; and Soorp, Soorp" (Ekmalian). Mrs. Ann D. Wallis conducted the choir and Mrs. Arpie Alahaidoyan accompanied the choir on the piano. Mrs. Wallis was also the organist of the Memorial Service.

Dr. Kassouny had arranged for a generous Endowment Fund the annual income from which is to be used for the education of a Bedouin student at Haigazian College in loving respect of his wife who was saved and raised in her early years by Bedouin Arabs. Other assignments are for publication and Sacred Music Singers.

The Board's respect was made visible when six members of the Board, namely, Sam Hekemian, Archie Cherkezian, Edward Janjigian, George Bezirgianian, M.D., Jirayr Tezel, M.D., and Edward Kavjian, M.D. served as ushers at the Memorial Service.

Each and every member of the Board extend their sympathy, but also their joyful gratitude for the leadership that Dicran gave to the AMAA.

The immediate family have asked that their expressions of deep gratitude be extended to all who honored their beloved Dicran with their presence and/or participation at the Memorial Service and for the courtesy of letters, telegrams and flowers from a host of others. The expressions of the immediate family are from

Kevork and Sirvart Kavouksorian
Lucy and Nazar Daghliah
Marie Kassouny
Margaret Kassouny and
Their families and immediate kin.

In "Lieu of Flowers" donations have been assigned to the Armenian Missionary Association of America and the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America.



Dr. D. Y. Kassouny, second from right, at one of his regular Board of Directors' meetings.

The Inspirational Corner

SLOW ME DOWN, LORD!

Slow me down, Lord!
Ease the pounding of my heart
By the quieting of my mind.
Steady my hurried pace
With a vision of the eternal reach of time.
Give me,
Amidst the confusion of my day,
The calmness of the everlasting hills.
Break the tensions of my nerves
With the soothing music of the singing streams
That live in my memory.
Help me to know
The magical restoring power of sleep.
Teach me the art
Of taking minute vacations of slowing down
to look at a flower;

to chat with an old friend or make a new one;
to pat a stray dog;
to watch a spider build a web;
to smile at a child;
or to read a few lines from a good book.
Remind me each day
That the race is not always to the swift;
That there is more to life than increasing its speed.
Let me look upward
Into the branches of the towering oak
And know that it grew great and strong
Because it grew slowly and well.
Slow me down, Lord,
And inspire me to send my roots deep
Into the soil of life's enduring values
That I may grow toward the stars
Of my greater destiny.

—Orin L. Crain

TESTIMONIALS MADE AT THE KASSOUNY MEMORIAL SERVICE

ON BEHALF OF THE AMAA

—G.H. Chopourian
Executive Director, AMAA

GRATITUDE is not only the memory but the homage of the heart (N.P. Willis). It is the latter we as Officers, Board members and Staff of the Armenian Missionary Association wish to render to Dicran.

All of our Christian literature teaches that "He who receives a benefit should never forget it." We do not; we cannot, for his services to the Armenian Missionary Association of America are of a permanent nature and they will continue to influence the direction of the Association.

His involvement with the Armenian Missionary Association dates back to his immigration to the United States in 1948, but for a long period of 30 years following his residency in Milwaukee in 1949. In those thirty years, he served the Association in many capacities:

During 1960-1962, he served as President and gave healthy direction to the Association's work. He was a pillar of strength to three Executive Secretaries: the late Reverend Puzant Kalfayan, the Reverend Edward Tovmassian and myself, the Executive Director at the present.

Out of his thirty years, he was on the Board of Directors for at least 20 years, serving also in the Executive Committee of the Association.

For slightly over ten years, he was Editor of the Armenian-American Outlook which came to be looked upon as a solid Evangelical medium of expression of Evangelical activities and thought.

Beyond all that, Dicran was on numerous active committees of the Association each year for all the years in which he was associated with the AMAA.

Above all and most importantly, he brought a beautiful spirit to the work of the Association and that same exemplary spirit pervaded all his relationships.

He who receives a benefit should never forget it. We in the Association have received not "a benefit" but a multitude of them. His last and per-

manent one was his pledge to establish a substantial sum to provide the tuition of a Beduin Arab student at Haigazian College to remember the kindnesses that Arab Beduins had rendered to his wife during the Turkish Atrocities against Armenians; to provide also for the publication of his father's writings now in manuscript.

We are here to remember him, but our gratefulness for his committed services is so profuse that it crosses that boundary into one of celebration.

Thank you, Dicran, for what you have been and done for the Armenian Missionary Association of America and for us all.

ON BEHALF OF THE AEUNA

—George Philibosian
Moderator, AEUNA

It is a sad privilege for me, but a sacred duty nevertheless, to be here this afternoon and share with you all these memorial services in tribute to our dearly loved, Rev. Dr. Dicran Kassouny.

And it is on behalf of the AEUNA, and personally, that I respectfully wish to extend our warmest sympathies and condolences to the bereaved loved ones he leaves behind, to you close family members, and to you friends here and everywhere. We will indeed miss, immensely, this most unforgettable man we have all been so fortunate to know!

Unquestionably, the void created by his departure from our midst cannot easily be filled, since Dr. Kassouny was in truth an irreplaceable soul.

I am sure all of us who have known him will agree that he was an outstanding human being, in all respects, one who leaves behind innumerable and priceless memories.

His unique personality, his most versatile capability and excellence, were so remarkable that one always wondered how all that was possible.

In addition, one could never visualize such an unassuming individuality, endowed with such rare gentleness and warmth. Incredibly, his erudition and talents would always shine more impressively under that unusual calm and serenity, and behind a proverbially understanding patience, as well as particularly inspirational example of genuine humaneness.

Understandably, we are very sad today experiencing a great sense of loss. But we are also thankful to God for having had him in our midst for all those years of amazing accomplishments, at the highest position levels, in unequalled and unremitting services to the AEUNA and in the AMAA, in his Church and his community, for his fellowmen and humanity at large.

We are convinced now when our ALL KNOWING AND ETERNAL FATHER in Heaven summons Dr. Kassouny to his side that our dearly loved and admired Doctor will rediscover and join his "JOY-AROUSIAK" after two long years of most difficult separation. And that together, and inseparably anymore, they will be able to continue eternally that most exemplary life of GOOD, and the type of accomplishments they cherished mostly.

May the GOOD LORD, the One and Only who can ever fathom the mystery of what life and death is, forever bless the souls of Dicran and Arousiak Kassouny, and that the memory of their noble and delicate beings, of their most talented and determined Christian souls, remain with us everlastingly.

ON BEHALF OF THE VETERANS ADM. MEDICAL CENTER

—Norman S. Cooper, M.D.
Chief, Laboratory Service
Veterans Adm. Medical Center

I knew Dicran Kassouny for about 25 years as a professional colleague, rather casually at first as we shared teaching responsibilities at New York University School of Medicine. It was clear that he was a well-trained and thoughtful pathologist and a pleasant, courteous man, but that was all I saw until 12 years ago when I joined him on the staff of the New York Veterans Administration Hospital's pathology department. It was then that I began to appreciate Dicran Kassouny. He readily accepted increasing administrative responsibility. Regardless of his personal preferences, he never turned down a task because it seemed unpleasant or unrewarding. As Chief of Clinical Pathology he directed almost a hundred people; he knew all of them

by first name, and he never lacked the time to hear their personal problems. Although he recognized the need for discipline, he defended his staff in conflicts with higher authority.

Dicran Kassouny was a scholarly pathologist, a teacher, and an administrator, but my colleagues and I will always remember him primarily as a gentle man.

ON BEHALF OF SMS

—John G. Keuhnelian, M.D.
President, SMS

There are multiple facets to this gem of a man whom we have known by the name of Dicran Kassouny. My first contact with him was strictly medical—almost 30 years ago—when we were in training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. I was a very young interne, he was a resident in Pathology.

One aspect of this jewel was his love for music, a love dating back to his early childhood. He became an accomplished musician, played several instruments and was particularly versed in liturgical works. Most important, he did not hide this talent but put his virtuosity to the utmost use, combining his musical ability with his strong Christian beliefs.

In 1939 he and his equally musical wife organized the Sacred Music Singers in Beirut. This group existed until 1948, when Dr. Kassouny came to the United States. During these nine years the group became famous for their concerts of religious music. As Medical House Officer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin he could not curb his enthusiasm and organized a nurses' choral group.

Three years ago we prevailed on our beloved doctor to reorganize the Sacred Music Singers in the United States. We have since presented three successful concerts and were preparing for a fourth in May. At this moment we are in a state of paralyzed shock.

Dear Friend, you departed this life ten days ago, just a few yours after a fine rehearsal where you were especially pleased with our progress. We will sing in your honor today. Although not present in body, we know you are watching over us. Beloved Brother—our Director—forgive us should we sing some wrong notes, since our eyes are misty. We can never thank you enough for your patience, encouragement and sacrifice.

MESSAGES AT THE KASSOUNY MEMORIAL SERVICE

LOVE AND DEATH FORCES

By Vartan Hartunian

There are two forces in creation which are struggling for our souls—*Love* and *Death*. *Love* draws us together and creates *light, life* and *joy*. *Death* separates us, leading us through loneliness, darkness and pain into oblivion... Which one of these forces is primary? Which one will win out in the end? "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (*Job 14:14*)

Without faith, it is clear that *Death* will be the final victor over *Life*. Even if earthly creatures propagate themselves into the unfathomable future, *Death* will nevertheless win out when eventually our sun cools down and dies. Or sooner, should the madness of nationalism incinerate all earthly life in its nuclear ovens!... The only eternity we can predict for the universe is the frivolous dance of elemental particles unobserved and unappreciated through endless time.

We said that *Death* leads us through loneliness, darkness and pain into oblivion. In Shakespeare's *MEASURE FOR MEASURE*, *Claudia* who has been sentenced to die speaks the following to his sister Isabella:

*Ay, but to die, and go we know not where;
To lie in cold obstruction and to rot;
This sensible warm motion to become
A kneaded clod:.....
The weariest and most loathed worldly life
That age, ache, penury and imprisonment
Can lay on nature is a paradise
To what we fear of death.*

And his sister Isabella answers, "Alas! Alas!"

In the memoirs of *Lawrence of Arabia*, the author describes a field hospital where hundreds of Turkish soldiers were laid out in various forms of disfigurement and mutilation. The entire area is filled with the groaning and moaning of the dying soldiers... *Lawrence* sees one of these soldiers muttering something and goes to him, bending over to hear what is being said. What does he hear?... "Aman! Aman! Aman!"... Yes, without faith, *Death* is the final victor!

But what if God is *Love*?... That's the beginning of a faith that can explode into hallelujahs to a listening

Universe! And that is precisely what the *Gospel* proclaims:

God is *Love*; he who dwells in love is dwelling in God, and God in him. (*1 John 4:16*)

And since *Love* draws us together and creates *light, life* and *joy*, God comes to us in Jesus Christ that we might "walk in the light as He is in the light" (*1 John 1:7*), that we might have "life and have it more abundantly" (*John 10:10*), and that our "joy might be full." (*John 15:11*)

*O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul on Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

If we truly love others, we will rescue them from dangers as we are able. Since God loves us "with an everlasting love" (*Jeremiah 31:3*), He saves us from the consequences of sin, sickness and death:

*What can separate us from the love of Christ?...
Can persecution, hunger, nakedness,
peril, or the sword?...
No! Overwhelming victory is ours
through Him who loved us.
For I am convinced that there is nothing
in all creation that can separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus
our Lord." (Romans 8:35-39)*

How was this victory possible for *Dicran Y. Kassouny*? He has died. Yes! Does he live? Yes!

As a member of the Church—baptized in the Name of the *Father*, and of the *Son*, and of the *Holy Spirit*—nourished by the *Word of God* and by the *Body and Blood of Jesus Christ* through the *Holy Communion of Bread and Wine*—he has passed through death into *Life Eternal*.

This is not, therefore, a Service of unmitigated sadness:

*The seed of grief has been planted, but
the flower of hope is blossoming...
The loving hand of God has lifted the
precious jewel of life from its mortal
box of clay...
The spirit, too grand for the imprisonment
of earth has broken the bars of
time...
He has fallen like ripe fruit into the open
hands of God.*

This is a Service, therefore, of *Solemn Joy—a Service of Resurrection*—because CHRIST HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! This joyous affirmation is not an Easter Greeting only, to be spoken once a year... It is the central truth of life pointing to an unshakable reality upon which the Church is founded... This is the joy that reverberates through a sick and dying world: CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD AND HAS BECOME THE FIRST FRUITS OF THOSE THAT SLEEP IN DEATH!

This we sing again this coming Easter which is not far off:

*Love's redeeming work is done!
Fought the fight, the battle won!
Death in vain forbids me rise!
Christ has opened Paradise! Alleluia!*

Without faith in Jesus Christ—faith in his Resurrection—life will end in “*Aman! Aman! Aman!*”... But if we live in Christ, as *Dicran* did, and if we die in Christ, as *Dicran* did, then our lives will end in “*Alleluia! Amen!*”

EULOGY

By S.K. Sulahian

The thirty-first chapter of The Proverbs is written in praise of “a good wife” or “a virtuous woman.” A simple adaptation will make it apply to a man, and would read as follows:

“A good husband—or a virtuous man—who can find? He is far more precious than jewels.

The heart of his wife trusts in him, and she will have no lack of gain.

He does her good, and not harm, all the days of his life.

He opens his mouth with wisdom and the teaching of kindness is on his tongue.

Many men have done excellently, but you surpass them all.

...a man who fears the Lord is to be praised.”

We are here today not to bury *Dicran Kassouny* but to praise him. I have no apologies for doing so. The passage from the Bible says “a woman (why not a man also?) who fears the Lord is to be praised.

To praise *Dicran Kassouny*, however, is not a simple task. Where do we

begin, and where do we end? How can we be adequate in our evaluation of a man like him? My attempt, at best, will be a very poor one. And I am supposed to know him quite well.

We were born the same year, he in Marash and I in Aintab. Obviously we were destined to meet in Beirut, Lebanon in 1933 and for the duration of our academic years be roommates at the Near East School of Theology. This was the beginning of a friendship that has lasted all these years.

Dicran was a bright and diligent student at Robert College in Istanbul, the American University of Beirut, and the Near East School of Theology in Beirut. All through his student years, and later as a professional man, he served as a teacher, youth leader, preacher, pastor and counselor. He distinguished himself as a writer, editor, and scholar as well.

All these would have satisfied most any other man, but not *Dicran*. After a full course of theological education, he started his studies in medicine at the American University of Beirut and further followed his specialty in pathology. He combined harmoniously the two healing ministries of the body and the soul.

Dr. Kassouny's side interest was in music. What could have remained only a hobby proved to be another achievement on a professional level. He became the beloved maestro of the Sacred Music Singers both in Beirut and the East Coast of the United States. The sweet music of his choir still rings in our ears. The rendition of the choir today is a spontaneous and heartfelt tribute to him.

How could a man of his caliber and profession still find time for other areas of service? And yet he did. Through the years *Dr. Kassouny* became a pillar, a strong supporter and an outstanding leader in the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and the Armenian Missionary Association of America. He served as a board member, president, chaplain, peacemaker among organizations in times of problems—an ambassador of good will. Besides serving churches in Philadelphia and New York, he was esteemed as a pastor-at-large of the Armenian Evangelicals.

He showed deep interest in the ecumenical movement and was wholeheartedly absorbed in the deliberations and

activities of the Joint Commission representing the Apostolic and the Evangelical Churches.

With all these, did he neglect his duties to his family and friends? Never! As a son he respected his parents and cherished their memory after their departure. He was a great admirer of his father, the Rev. Prof. Yeghia Kassouny. He derived inspiration from his father's memory and literary and historic writings. He acknowledged his indebtedness to his mother for his musical training. He expressed sincere concern for his sisters and close relatives. He was an affectionate brother and uncle.

He excelled particularly as an exemplary husband. His attitude towards his wife—*Arousiag Joy*—could only be expressed with the words: Tender Loving Care.

He was a faithful friend whose fellowship was uplifting and enjoyable.

All of these were possible because he was most of all *a man of God*, not only professionally as a minister, but also in his own personal life, convictions, and practices. He was a *man of prayer*. He would start a meal, even in a public restaurant, with a word of prayer—not to show off but to express his gratitude to the Provider of all good gifts, and as a testimony to his faith in God.

He was a Christian gentleman, and truly a gentle man.

On Thursday, March 22, 1979, he conducted the choir rehearsal at the Paramus Church, for the last time, and shortly afterwards, on the next day, he was transported to heaven to resume new positions in the heavenly choir.

So, as he sings God's praises in heaven, let us pause here for a while and sing our brother *Kassouny's* praises, for he richly deserves them, fully aware that his most important praise and commendation will come to him when he hears the good Lord say:

“*Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little. I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.*” (Matt. 25:21)

And so we say “well done and until we meet again” to our own beloved *Albert Schweitzer*—the theologian, the physician, the musician, and most importantly, the man of God.

Blessed be his memory. May God comfort his bereaved family and countless friends.

LETTER TESTIMONIALS IN MEMORY OF D. Y. KASSOUNY

By Asadour Sadakian

“The news of *Dr. Dicran Kassouny's* passing away was a shock to me personally and made me grief-stricken. We met each other in Kessab, Syria in October, 1930 when I was the principal of the Armenian Evangelical School there and Rev. Yeghia Kassouny and family moved there from Istanbul as the pastor of the church. *Dicran* became the principal of the school in Ekiz-oluk, a village very near to Kessab.

Three years later in 1933 we became classmates and roommates in N.E.S.T. in Beirut. I have unforgettable memories of *Dicran*. He was a wonderful person for a friend and classmate; a wonderful teacher also of my future wife in what was then called ‘Armenian Evangelical High School,’ Beirut.

“*Dr. Kassouny* was also a man of convictions and was very courageous to defend truth. I wish I had space to relate anecdotes which would show

how courageous this humble man of God was under circumstances and situations that required Christian fortitude and moral courage.

“May God bless his memories for us all. My prayer is that God raise many leaders like him for whom there is so much need everywhere in our Evangelical Movement.”

*God's delays are
not God's denials*

DICRAN YEGHIA KASSOUNY
(December 25, 1910 - March 23, 1979)

Dicran Kassouny was born in Marash, Turkey on Christmas Day, 1910, the son of the Rev. Yeghia Y. Kassouny, a noted teacher, minister and historian, and Margaret Nouskajian Kassouny. His mother died of typhus during the 1915 deportation of the Armenian community, and, using the family Bible, one of the few books left in the family's possession, his devout grandmother, Yeva Nouskajian, taught him to read and write. In 1918, his father married Yevnigue Terzian, a brilliant pianist and music teacher.

The persecutions of the Armenian people and the deprivations of the First World War obliged the *Kassouny* family to continually move about, until in 1922 Professor *Kassouny* secured a teaching appointment at the Swiss Friends of Armenia School in Istanbul, where he enrolled his twelve-year old son. *Dicran Kassouny* later completed his secondary school studies at the Gedik Pasha American School, from which he entered Robert College in 1927. Despite the family's strained financial resources, he excelled in his academic pursuits and was the recipient of the Washburn Scholarship for his senior year. This, however, he was obliged to decline, and after an interim year of teaching at Ekiz-Olouluk, he completed his undergraduate studies at the American University of Beirut in 1932.

Remaining in Beirut, he pursued his theological education at the Near East School of Theology, graduating in 1936. After serving the Armenian Evangelical community of Tripoli, he assumed a teaching position in Beirut, and in 1939 he married *Arousiag Joy Stepanian*, a graduate of Wheaton College and the University of Pennsylvania (M.A., Educ.) who had returned to the Middle East to serve her people as a missionary teacher. With his wife's encouragement and support, he entered the School of Medicine of the American University of Beirut and received his M.D. degree in 1946. A leader in the Christian Endeavor Union, a youth movement which revitalized the Armenian Evangelical community, and the founder and, for eleven years the Director of the Sacred Music Singers (his mother and step-mother were accomplished musicians), *Dicran Kassouny* early established his pattern of intense community involvement as pastor, doctor, writer, editor and musician.

Following his ordination as a clergyman, *Dicran* and *Arousiag Kassouny* emigrated to the United States in 1948. *Dicran Kassouny* completed his internship at the American University Hospital in Beirut, and his residency in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He specialized in clinical pathology at the Graduate School of Medicine of the Univ. of Pennsylvania, while serving as part-time minister of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Phila. (1949-1953). After coming to New York to work in the Departments of Surgical and Clinical Pathology of the Veterans Administration Hospital, he continued his dual role of medicine and ministry and assumed the pastorate of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York in 1955, where he maintained his church membership until his death. In 1971, he became Associate Director of the Department of Clinical Pathology. He was also Associate Professor of Pathology at the New York University Medical School.

A deeply committed Christian, *Dicran Kassouny* began and ended each day with prayer and Bible reading. A voracious reader, he translated some of his father's works from Armenian to English, and, at the time of his death, he was preparing the biographies of his father and his wife. Active in the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (where he served as Chaplain) and in the Armenian Missionary Association of America (he served as its President from 1960 to 1962 and had just been elected Vice President prior to his death), *Dicran Kassouny* was Editor in Chief of the *Armenian-American Outlook* and a member of the Eastern Committee of Haigazian College. He was a frequent speaker at Armenian community events and served as a member of the Ecumenical Committee which sought a rapprochement between the Armenian Mother Church and the Armenian Protestant Movement.

After moving to North Tarrytown, New York in 1966, *Dicran* and *Arousiag Kassouny* participated in the activities of the Second Reformed Church. *Arousiag Kassouny* died on August 15, 1977 after a long illness. Their mutual love for music inspired the rebirth of the Sacred Music Singers in 1976, including the choirs of the Armenian Evangelical Churches of New York, Paramus and Havertown. Following his regular Thursday evening rehearsal of the S.M.S. and Choir of the Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus, which he directed for the last two and a half years, *Dicran Kassouny* returned to North Tarrytown, where he entered his eternal rest, dying in his sleep in the early morning of March 23, 1979.

—RAFFI BERBERIAN

By Peter B. Doghramji

UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES OF DICRAN

The last time I saw Brother Dicran Kassouny was on February 18, 1979, when he preached a Vartanantz Day sermon in our Church on the text from Joshua 24:15: "Choose this day whom you will serve...., but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." He was scheduled to preach again on May 6th, but the Lord had other plans for him.

Many fitting epithets have been given to this man of God, such as the Armenian Albert Schweitzer, since he assimilated music and medicine with the Christian ministry. But for me, he was a Joshua in spirituality, serving the Lord with integrity and uncompromising zeal. He chose whom he would serve, and he served the Lord Jesus Christ faithfully until the end. He was a man of faith, serving the Lord and ministering to the needs of his people.

There was also another side of him which, together with the first, brought forth a combination of rare beauty and grace: He had learned from his Lord how to love others. St. Paul's description of such a person in 1 Corinthians 13 is another fitting epithet. Brother Dicran spoke quite a few languages of men as well as the language of the angels. But above all, he had love. Therefore he was patient and kind; not jealous or boastful; not arrogant or rude. He did not insist on his way. He was not irritable or resentful. He did not rejoice at wrong, but rejoiced in the right. He bore all things, believed, hoped and endured all things.

In my own pilgrimage I have yet a lot to learn. Brother Dicran taught me a course in service and love. Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord, who sends us such spiritual giants! Blessed be the living memory of our brother who abides eternally in the love of God.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS

Legal opinion and bitter experience dictate that no persons die intestate.

Be sure you have a will. Remember your preferred charities through your Will. The federal government encourages these gifts by allowing estate tax charitable deductions for gifts to qualified charitable organizations. A charitable bequest through your Will becomes a living memorial.



Dicran Kassouny 4th from right (1st row) at the First Armenian Evangelical World Conference. Almost every conference in 30 years carried his picture.



Dicran Kassouny conducting the SMS choir



Dr. Kassouny (right) smiling as corsage is pinned on his wife Joy-Arousiag who had encouraged the re-formation of SMS in the United States.

HOW TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE AMAA

By Elizabeth Caraman Payne

Having been a volunteer worker in whatever community we lived in, I learned early that the 'sacrificial giver' is the backbone of charity drives.

During the Second World War, Sara Saprichian, whom I had known in Harpout as Dr. Parmelee's nurse and who had helped us orphans, asked me if we could give some money to the AMAA.

We were five and my husband a college teacher earning \$2400. We had already made our pledges for the year, and we had no money for unexpected appeals. But I braced myself to appeal to Christian friends who would and could make sacrifices.

Our elderly neighbor next door to whom I sent some rolls with our daughter said, "Tell your mother if ever she wants to make money by making homemade bread or rolls I'll be her first customer."

What better time to begin! I took her a loaf of my bread and told her exactly what cause I was raising money for. She gave me a generous check.

Then I remembered someone admiring a Greek vase sent us by my sister living in Miss Cushman's orphanage in Corinth, Greece. That would have to go.

"Altoon's children in Greece are in need," I told my husband.

So I at once called the friend and told her I wanted to sell the vase she had admired. When I suggested \$50 she seemed reluctant, but when I told her what the money was to be used for she bought it.

Providentially, a pattern for raising money revealed itself.

So, when a few years ago an appeal went out for a young Armenian who had been brought to Boston for healing, I sold my beautiful antique silver snuff box which had been given to me by a Near East Relief worker. A fellow Armenian who loved such objects bought it.

Recently a plea came for Lebanon relief. I used all three methods. My Bible class responded to my begging. I invited an old lady and her brother for a home-cooked dinner—they eat out most of the time. In leaving, she invited us to dine out with them soon. I declined and unashamedly suggested she could donate part of that invitation dinner check to the AMAA. For years I have been turning over to charities my 'honorariums' for speaking. But my richest donation was half of what I received when we sold our oriental rug. What a thrill it is to part with a loved object for the sake of those for whom Jesus loved enough to die!

I say without shame, these acts and devices brought generous funds from Christians who, under other circumstances would say, "But we just can't take on another charity!"



Mr. & Mrs. William Payne with their daughter (left) at the 60th Anniversary Banquet in Washington D.C. They made a very generous pledge for the AMAA. Mrs. Elisabeth Caraman Payne's book entitled "Daughter of the Euphrates" will be republished. First printing by Harper was in 1934.

NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL 60th ANNIVERSARY PLEDGES

(* = Additions to Previous Pledges Reported)

ARIZONA (Phoenix)	
Anonymous	1,000
CALIFORNIA (Greater Los Angeles)	
Mr. Barkev Baghdikian	100
Mr. Luther H. Bosnian	1,000*
Dr. Nazareth E. Darakjian	100
Anonymous	1,100
Dr. & Mrs. George A. Macer	100
Anonymous	2,000
Anonymous	200
Mr. & Mrs. Mihran Salibian	100
The Rev. & Mrs. G. Tilkian	150
CALIFORNIA (Greater San Francisco)	
Mr. & Mrs. John Halajian	500
Mr. & Mrs. N.C. Matthews	500
California (Fresno)	
The Rev. & Mrs. H.M. Missirlian	200
ILLINOIS	
The Rev. & Mrs. H. Gurlekian	100*
Anonymous	100
MASSACHUSETTS (Greater Boston)	
Mary Kumjian Fund (Established by The Rev. Vincent Kumjian)	500
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Terkanian	100
MICHIGAN (Greater Detroit)	
Anonymous	100
Hoohanes & Ovsanna Kupelian Fund (In Honor of Mr. Kupelian's 90th Birthday)	815
The Rev. & Mrs. H. Maghakian	100
Mrs. Rose Dzerouni	100
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Philipian	500
NEW JERSEY (Bergen County)	
Mr. & Mrs. Th. Chatalbash	1,000
PENNSYLVANIA (Greater Phila.)	
Miss A. Der Boghossian	400
Mrs. Harry Terjanian	100
RHODE ISLAND (Providence)	
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Dayian	1,000*
Mrs. Arsen Goergizian	505*
CANADA (Montreal)	
Mr. Haigazoun Artinian	100
OVERSEAS—MIDDLE EAST	
Mr. & Mrs. A. Badeer	750.000

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE AND MARY ISHKANIAN

(Recounting of Her Life Story)

(Editor's Note: April 24 having been commemorated all over the world and June 16 being the Golden Anniversary of Harry and Mary Ishkanian, the latter having lived through the harrowing experiences of the Genocide but coming out of it all with a rather positive outlook, it was felt that this is an appropriate time to relate Mary's story. She and her husband have a special place in the hearts of AMAA leaders and in her own church circles. We believe her story, as reproduced below in summarized form, can uplift all Christians since they are challenged to FORGIVE and be COMPASSION-NATE)

"I experienced the hardship and suffering of deportation out of Malatya," she relates. "My father along with others was beheaded and buried in the mass grave he dug; my grandmother, too weak and exhausted from the long march, was shot by the accompanying zabit who then gently held my hand, pulled me away saying, 'Let your grandmother rest here awhile. Come. Let me take you back to your family.'"

"In the days that followed, I saw this zabit time and time again keep other soldiers from beating the defenseless. This combination of violence, followed by kindness, puzzled me. In retrospect, I see my grandmother's death as a merciful sparing of agony—that of watching all the people she held dearest in this world die. Could she have endured the abandonment of my beautiful baby brother, her grandson, on the roadside?" exclaims Mary. "Of all the sorrows," Mary confesses, "this was the hardest for me to bear. I remember crying with all my heart, though fully aware my mother had no other alternative. None of us did. The picture of that one-year-old child, helpless and alone, will stay with me for the rest of my life," says Mary with tearful eyes.

"I will always remember and cherish the spot where we deportees made camp at the Euphrates River on the outskirts of Ourfah. Here (and I believe it was His doing, as are all, the circumstances of our lives) God sent a guardian angel in the form of a Turkish Moslem woman in a remark-

able way. This woman had seen me wading along the shallow edges with several other children," continues Mary. "She approached my mother explaining, 'I have eight sons and no daughters. I've seen many little girls here, but God has laid your little one on my heart. I want to take her home with me to raise her as my own. I'll give no less love and care than you, if you will only let me take her home. You'll never regret it; but if you take her with you, she'll only suffer and perhaps die.'"

"After several days of persistence," recounts Mary, "her genuine fondness for me overcame my mother's reluctance and taking me aside told me of things that must be: 'She is a good woman,' she said, in an effort to assure. 'She will treat you well and care for you until I return. Go with her. God will not desert you.' I left with the woman for her home in Ourfah, feeling a terrible finality that I would never see any member of my family alive again. There was an end to many things—but also some new beginnings. I had to adjust to a new family, a different religion, another language.

"For weeks," Mary recollects, "I cried for my parents, my brother and sister, my godparents, and friends... and this dear Moslem woman, whom I began calling 'Ana' did everything to comfort me.

"She gave me dolls, jewelry, sweets. She gave me love, care and affection. Time and the tender ministrations of 'Ana' and her husband, whom I came to love and call 'Baba,' did heal my pain. Together with their two younger sons, 2 and 4, they formed my new family. 'Baba,' an affectionate and loving man, was a wealthy merchant who traveled a great deal in connection with his work. Within two years, part of the family (including me) moved for business reasons to Aleppo. We lived in a big home with three servants, two of whom were Armenian.

"Once more death intruded. 'Ana' died! It is only with the perspective that time reveals that I now realize this, too, was of God. She was such a loving woman that if she had lived, I would still be living in Turkey, raised in Mos-

lem surroundings.

"In the middle of my bewilderment and grief, 'Baba' remarried. Instead of love and affection, envy and resentment were my lot making life difficult and unhappy. Providentially that difficult and uncaring woman did me a great favor by revealing my background to the Armenian servants which led to interrogations.

"In October of 1918 England began its rule of Aleppo and there was a concerted effort to relocate all Armenian children residing in Moslem homes with their families or close relatives. In reply to the queries of the Armenian servants, I gave them a slip of paper on which my stepmother had written the names of three relatives and which paper I had always kept pinned to the inside of my garments. Several weeks later Mugurdich Araradian, one of the group of volunteers recruited by the Armenian Church to seek out 'lost' Armenian children, came to tell me that I was 'Mareah' and he had found that my uncles in America were eager to have me live with them.

"After receiving a guarantee that I would not be placed in an orphanage and upon receipt of papers from the church authorities, my 'Baba' relinquished me. Through the help of Mr. Araradian I was taken to an Armenian family in Aleppo with whom I stayed for 14 months until traveling papers were prepared so I could proceed to America. Finally I reached the shores of America on May 26, 1921, where I met my two uncles Marderos and Kachadour. It was a time of great joy but a time of sadness as well for out of about 50 that comprised my family and kin, I was the only survivor.

"Now looking back at those years in Turkey, I realize they weren't wasted because they taught me to forgive—a very difficult lesson to learn. Those years also made me grateful... Even in the midst of horror and tragedy, there was the kindness of the gendarme who allowed me to see my father in prison; the zabit who took me back to my family; my dear 'Ana' who showered such love on me; Mr. Araradian who diligently followed me step by step for over a year to be sure I reached my

destination in America; the kindness of the Ekmejians who housed me for 14 months; the organizations such as the Red Cross and the Armenian church which assisted me in locating my uncles, and making the traveling arrangements ... I am even grateful for my cruel stepmother. If she had been a kind and loving woman, I might never have left Turkey!

"Above all, I am grateful to God. Those years were a tremendous testimony of God's faithfulness. He cared for me throughout; protected and guided me all the way. He hasn't stopped.

"He has given me family and friends, health and a great joy in serving Him. He has given me a new song to sing, and I know 'He will guide me' all my life with His wisdom and counsel... for He is the strength of my heart. He is mine forever." (Psalm 73:24, 26)



Mary Ishkanian while in Turkish Home



Mugurdich Araradian



Mary Ishkanian today

REPORT FROM TEHRAN

By Arpine Aghabegian

Arpine Aghabegian's February and March reports reveal work proceeds despite the confusion caused by Civil War in Iran. She writes to "dear friends":

"The Daily Vacation Bible School activities which we had started continued successfully till the schools reopened. What a great joy it was for all the students and teachers when it was announced that the schools will be reopened on the 17th of February. Since then all the school activities are taking place regularly. As previously I am still in charge of the religion lessons at Gohar Mesrobian School. The rest of my church activities with the children and young people in three of our church centers are taking place regularly. We are planning to have a youth rally on the 22nd of March 1979. I hope we shall be able to have it on time and without any difficulty. Although revolution took place and the strikes ended, but the country is still facing many kinds of problems. There is unemployment, unsafety, and uncertainty in all the country.

On the 22nd of March we had a youth rally at St. John's Church in Tehran. Fifty two young boys and girls attended it from three of our youth groups in Tehran, Majidieh and Narmak. We had a wonderful time of Christian fellowship together. We were all blessed by the Holy Spirit. Our theme was "Jesus Christ is Lord." The Golden verse was "Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:11. We had four guest speakers who led us in studying the Word of God.

Now we are planning with the same youth groups to lead the Easter Sunrise Worship service at St. John's Church. Many of them are given certain responsibilities in this service. I believe it will be a great experience for most of them. Right after the church service we are going to have breakfast together with the congregation.

We are thankful to the Lord for helping us in having all of our church activities regularly. It is very encouraging to see the young people interested in studying the Bible and attending the church services regularly in such a time of political crisis and revolution.

Remember us in your prayers. We need real peace, the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sincerely yours, Arpine Aghabegian."

URGENT FINANCIAL NEEDS

PUBLIC SUPPORT BEING SOUGHT

My check or money order for \$_____ is enclosed for project(s) listed below:

FOR:

Relief to Armenians in Lebanon	\$_____
Needs of Haigazian College	\$_____
Istanbul Youth Home	\$_____
Elementary and High School Children	\$_____
Lunch and Camp Programs for Children	\$_____
The Children's Evangelism Work in Tehran	\$_____
Support of Deficits of Lebanon Churches	\$_____
Needs of the Armenian Evang. Social Service Center in Los Angeles	\$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please make checks payable to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for tax exemption, and mail to: 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus N.J. 07652.

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

The Executive Director's Report in this issue will be limited to news items.

ITEMS APPEARING IN NEWS-PAPERS

A. The Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian has done some prolific writing which appeared in the Armenian/English language papers:

1. On the occasion of the New Year: "Thoughts at the Beginning of a New Year."
2. On the occasion of Easter: "What is Easter Faith?"
3. On the occasion of Vantantz Day: "From the Heroic Struggle Celebrated on Vantantz Day, Valuable Lessons Can be Gained."
4. On the occasion of observance of April 24, his article appearing under "Opinions" in The Armenian Reporter.
5. On the occasion of Mother's Day: "The Armenian Mother Has Given of Herself for Her Children, Nation."

B. The Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center in Los Angeles listed its activities for the first quarter of 1979 reporting that 246 cases were handled. The Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center is funded by the AMAA with support from the AEU-NA, Stephen Philibosian Foundation and public contributions. With greater public support, greater services can be rendered, so the Armenian public are requested to be generous.

C. Memorial Services for James Koundakjian were sponsored by the Board of the Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center to laud the services of the deceased who was the founding chairman of the Service Center. Many contributions have come in James Koundakjian's memory, the donor of one of which has sent such an emotional note with his substantial gift that we would like to record it. It is from Dr. August Hovnanian of Cleveland, Ohio:

"This I donate in memory of J. Koundakjian, with whom I have started to walk in the darkness and joys of this world.

"He has been a big brother to me. His helpful hands and willing spirit has been my guide.

"Do not tell me he died!

"He is with us, but in a changed and

altered state. I hear him talk softly and convincingly with a gentle smile on his face!

"He did not die! How could he?" (Jan. 2, 1979)

D. AMAA Relief Funds: The report appearing in the papers on January 25 indicated that the Association had forwarded \$125,000 to affiliate organizations in Lebanon for relief. The Association has budgeted equally large amounts for the forthcoming year.

E. Industrialist Alex Manoogian has contributed \$25,000 to AMAA supported schools in Lebanon.

F. The Arizona Republic reported that arsonists spoiled the **50th Anniversary Celebration of the Mehagian business.** Fire damaged the main store of Mehagian Furniture Galleries at 825 North Central and its Executive Furniture Division across the alley. The Mehagians determined to go ahead with plans to repair the \$500,000 damage and to reconstruct the inventory. That is like the Mehagians!

G. The Rev. Vartan Hartunian offered a prayer translated from the Armenian liturgy at the White House Rotunda during special observances on April 24 marked as National Holocaust Day, at which time the Jewish Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide were remembered.

H. The Link, paper of the Americans for Middle East Understanding, made a correction acknowledging the substantial contributions of the AMAA for Lebanon relief.

MISSION EMPHASIS SUNDAYS HELD IN THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES:

A. Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church, Havertown, Pa. on Sunday, March 18. The presentation of the work of the Association was done in the form of mission colloquy with participation from George Philibosian, Edward Kavjian, G.H. Chopourian with the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji moderating the colloquy.

B. First Armenian Church of Belmont, Mass. on Sunday, March 25. The mission emphasis was Lent and Christian Responsibility at the Worship Service, followed by a full-course lunch prepared and served by the Benevolence Committee of the Church at which time AMAA's operations were reviewed.

SLATE OF NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE 1981 TERM:

George Bezirgianian, M.D.
Archie Cherkezian
Dr. Peter Doghramji
Dr. Paul Gertmenian
Roy Z. Gertmenian
Edward Karian, M.D.
Jirayr Tezel, M.D.

EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY PARTY GIFT ASSIGNED TO THE AMAA

Mr. Puzant Shamlian of San Francisco remembered the AMAA when he was treated to an 80th Birthday Party by his friends, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Medzian. The inspiring note with the donation read,

"He wanted to give his birthday money to charity so what could be better than the AMAA for the needs of orphans."

ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL WORLD CONFERENCE

The Master Plan Committee of the Armenian Evangelical World Conference will meet sometime between August 17 through 28 in Los Angeles. The members of the Committee are:

East Coast

Archie Cherkezian
G.H. Chopourian
Nazar Daghljan
Peter Doghramji
George Philibosian

West Coast

Mrs. Alice Haig
Vartkes Kassouni
Puzant Krikorian, M.D.
Harry Missirlian
Norair Sarian, M.D.

Overseas

Manuel Jinbashian
Hovhannes Karjian
Yessayi Sarmazian

AWARDS, GRADUATIONS, APPOINTMENTS

A. Pastors on the Move

1. The Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji has accepted the post of Assistant to the Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the U.C.C.
2. The Rev. Leon Tavitian has extended his resignation to the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church of Providence, R.I.

3. The Rev. Zenas Ilanjan has completed his services to the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York City.
4. The Rev. Barkev Orchanian was ordained to the Christian ministry on Sunday, May 20 in Aleppo, Syria and will serve the Armenian Protestant Bethel Church of that city.
5. The Rev. Karl Avakian was ordained to the Christian ministry in Fresno on March 18 and will serve the Armenian Presbyterian Church in Paramus, N.J.
6. The Rev. George Papoojian has accepted a call to serve the Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Springfield, Mass.
7. The Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian has accepted the call from the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church of Downey, Calif. and will commence his services in August.

B. Awards

Carol Bezirgianian, daughter of Dr. & Mrs. George Bezirgianian, received the announcement from the U.S. Commissioner of Education and the Commission on Presidential Scholars that her name was included in the 1979 finalists in the 1979 Presidential Scholars Program which annually identifies the most intellectually distinguished graduating high school seniors in the nation. She is one of 1,000 outstanding young American students to become a finalist in this program in more than 3 million seniors to graduate this year. She has been awarded a certificate by the President's Commission on Presidential Scholars.

Finalists who become Presidential Scholars will be invited to Washington, D.C., where they will be honored by their elected representatives, by educators, and by others in the public life of the Capitol of the nation. The selection is based on numerous factors in addition to academic excellence, as for example, achievement in the performing arts and a demonstrated ability in leadership, contribution of energy and creativity to their schools and communities, and achievement in the sciences and in other fields of interest.

The independent judgment of the members of the Commission on Presidential Scholars, with the concurrence of the President of the United States, determines final selection.

C. Graduations:

The AMAA Headquarters received announcements of Degrees earned:

1. The Rev. Soghomon Nuyujukian earned a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Andover-Newton Theological School.
 2. Archbishop Hrant Khachadourian earned a Ph.D. Degree in History from Providence College.
 3. Miss Shushan Salibian earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.
- AMAA COMMENDED BY U.A.E.C.N.E.**

The Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East have resolved to send the following communication dated April 27 to the AMAA subsequent to a unanimous resolution of the delegates meeting in Aleppo for the Annual Meeting of the Union in April, 1979:

Dear Mr. Hekemian:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

It is our privilege to inform you that the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East in its 43rd Convention held on 17-21 April, 1979, in Aleppo, Syria, voted to convey its hearty congratulations to the Armenian Missionary Association of America on its 60th anniversary.

Established at the darkest period of the history of the Armenian people by a group of visionary Armenian Evangelicals and supported by the Armenian Evangelical Churches of America, the A.M.A.A. has been of immense significance to the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Diaspora in terms of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction. Through the years it has outgrown its modest beginnings and has, by the grace of God, been transformed into a missionary association with real missionary outlook, inspiring our churches as regards to their duty for missionary outreach.

The Union is proud of the cooperative spirit that characterizes its relationship with the A.M.A.A. True, we have been your beneficiaries; but we have also contributed to the overall well-being of the Armenian Evangelical cause worldwide. Your moral and financial support was and is reciprocated by our providing Armenian Evangelicalism with leadership. We thank God for this opportunity of partnership and look forward to ever fruitful cooperation with you—in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord.

On behalf of
The Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East
Yessayi Sarmazian Hovhannes N. Karjian
(Secretary) (Moderator)



Child Education Sponsorship Committee members planning promotion techniques for greater support for the Sponsorship Program. Left to right: Mrs. Arpie Alahaidoyan, Mrs. Marguerite Dokouzian, Mrs. Katherine Kurkjian, Mrs. Marylyn Voskian, Mrs. Marie Alberian, Mrs. Grace Karakashian, Mrs. Rose Maranjian.



A shot of participants at the Haigazian College Ladies Auxiliary sponsored Tennis and Game Night at the Haworth Golf & Racquet Club. From left to right, Mr. Harry Boyadjian, Dr. Jirayr Tezel, Pastor Karl Avakian, Dr. John Keuhnelian, Mr. Nerses Aynilian, Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Mr. Robert Casparian, Mr. Edward Janjigian, Mr. Kirk Sermabeikian.

LOS ANGELES EVANGELICAL SOCIAL SERVICE
ON THE MOVE

The year 1979 started with great improvement. The influx of people increased due to the Iranian turmoil. The Center is very busy helping people coming in and out with varied problems. The activity of the Center is expanding because of the urgent need.

The Center now has a very qualified job counselor, Mrs. Marjolaine Sassouni, whose services started on Feb. 1, 1979. She is fluent in Armenian and English. More than twenty people have already been placed in different jobs. An example is the story of a lady who sought asylum in the American Embassy in Moscow months ago. Many newspapers, including the L.A. Times, wrote about this matter. The family is now in Los Angeles, and the husband came to our office seeking a job. Our job counselor listened to his story. She found him a job the same day, thereby immediately meeting their need.

Another story is about a man who was to be deported from the United States by the Immigration authorities. Our Center acted immediately, and handled the matter very delicately with the Immigration Officers. Within a few days we received a letter that he would not be deported and would be permitted to remain here.

The Center also has part time volunteer helpers. They are Rosine de Cervantes, George Vartanian and Bob Movel. There is much work to be done, and each one is doing its best to help fill our needs.

The Director of the Center was invited to give a talk at a seminar at Hollywood High School. The theme was, "School Student Relationship in the Culture." Other resource people assisting were Mrs. Helen Grimsley, Elizabeth Agbabian, Bob Movel and Mira Kalfayan.

The Center always appreciates the strong support of the Center's Directors and of the AMAA Board of Directors, the funding body. We need everyone's support and prayer so that the Center can carry on its successful mission in Los Angeles.

Statistically speaking, the Center has dealt with the following problems from January 1 to March 28, 1979:

Table with 4 columns: Problem Category, Count, Problem Category, Count. Rows include Employment (89), Legal (65), Senior Citizens (32), Counseling (25), Schooling (12), General Information (13), Medical (10), and a total of 246.

BARGAIN BOOKS

(LEGEND: pb = Paper Bound; hc = Hard Cover; * = In Armenian)

Table with 3 columns: Item Number, Title, and Price. Lists various books by authors like G.H. Chopourian, Rev. Herald A.G. Hassessian, etc., with their listed and on-sale prices.

REQUEST

- 1. PLEASE NOTIFY ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESSES.
2. IN THE EVENT OF DEATH PLEASE INFORM US OF THE DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH OF THE DECEASED.

Armenian Evangelical Church of New York observed AMAA Sunday with former AMAA President John Keyishian bringing the message. Chapter Chairman Mr. Nerses Aynilian organized the observance and the after-church-service lunch.

TIME TO INVEST IN UNLIMITED DIVIDENDS

Schools are beginning registration. This is the time to consider investing in children's lives. You can have unlimited benefit by investing in the future well-being of young lives—IN THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

There is no way ever to measure the full impact of this kind of investment. Come alive, invest in something fundamentally VALUABLE.

For many Armenian youngsters living in the Middle-East today, an education is not only essential for their growth, but also for the continuation of their Armenian Heritage. Their lives have been a nightmare, living with fear, death, and occasionally hunger.



For he who shares with his people
Their sorrow and agony will feel a
Supreme comfort created only by
Suffering in sacrifice. And he will
Be at peace with himself when he dies
Innocent with his fellow innocents.
(Kahlil Gibran)



THE NEED IS URGENT!
YOU MAY HELP BY INVESTING JUST:

- \$75 to help educate an Elementary child
\$100 to help a High School child.
\$300 for Board, Lodging and Schooling at the Istanbul Youth Home.

By calling us for information in the event you wish to pay for the full yearly tuition of a child.
(201) 265 - 2607 or 2608

INVEST TODAY!

Fill in the coupon below and mail it to: ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC., 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652. (The A.M.A.A., founded in 1918, has been in the forefront of service for 60 years. Contributions are tax deductible).

Form with sections for 'I wish to sponsor the tuition of a:' (boy/girl, Elementary/High School/Istanbul Youth Home), 'Trusting in God, and for His sake, I would like to participate in the "salvaging" of Armenian children...', and fields for Name, Address, City, and State.

ՀԱՄԱՆԻՆ ՀԱՅ ԺՈՂՈՎՈՒՐԴԻՆ
ԿԱՐԻՔՆԵՐՈՒՆ

Այսօր Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկեր-
րային Ծառայութեան Կեդրոնը կը
վայելէ լայն ժողովրդականութիւն
մասնաւոր նոր հաստատուած հայե-
րու մօտ: 1977 Յունուար 3-ին պաշ-
տօնական բացումը կատարուեցաւ
Կեդրոնին ամբողջական ծախքը կը հո-
գայ Ամերիկահայ Աւետարանական
Ընկերակցութիւնը: Կեդրոնը կը վա-
յելէ Միացեալ Հայ Ժողովական եկե-
ղեցւոյ եւ էմմանուէլ Հայ Ժողովա-
կան եկեղեցւոյ ինչպէս նաեւ Հիւսի-
սային Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարա-
նական Միութեան անդամութիւնը:

Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերային
Ծառայութեան Կեդրոնը նուիրուած
է հասնելու Լոս Անճելըսի մէջ ապրող
Հայ ընտանիքներու կարիքներուն:
Իր առաջնագոյն նպատակն է նոր
գաղթած հայերուն Ամերիկեան
կեանքի ձեւի շրջանի դարձնել սա-
հուն: Այս առնչութեամբ Կեդրոնը
նորեւ Ամերիկահայերու տրամադ-
րութեան տակ դրած է հետեւեալ ծա-
ռայութեան ձեւերը:

Խորհրդակցական Պահեր— ընտա-
նական եւ ամուսնական յարաբերու-
թեանց զեղծարարութեան քննարկում:
—Երիտասարդներու նոր միջավայրի
եւ օրէնքներու համակերպման ճի-
գեր: —Ներգաղթի կանոնները եւ օ-
րէնքները ծանօթացնել եւ լուրջ պա-
րագանքներու յանձնարարագրեր
տրամադրել:

Կրթական—Ուղեցոյց հանդիսա-
նալ անոնց համար որոնք կ'ուզեն ու-
սում ստանալ եւ նիւթական օժանդու-
կութիւն ապահովել:

Տարեց Բաղաճախներ—Ձեռքբա-
ղող տղաներ ապահովելու հաստա-
տագրեր տրամադրել տարեց քաղա-
քացիներու եւ Ընկերային Ապահո-
վութեան Գրասենեակի վերաբերեալ
թարգմանչական գործողութիւններ
կատարել:

Բնակարանային—Օգնել նորեկնե-
րուն յարմար բնակարաններ ապա-
հովելու եւ հարկ եղած պարագային
ճրի կահ կարասի ապահովել:

Աշխատանքային—Կեդրոնի ունե-
ցած ծանօթութիւններու միջոցաւ
միջնորդի դեր կատարել անգործ հա-

յերու եւ գործատէրերու միջեւ: Աշ-
խատանքային գրասենեակներու դի-
մել եւ գործ ապահովել, արհեստի
կեդրոններու համար հաստատագրեր
տալ անոնց որոնք արհեստի տէր չեն:
Բժշկական—Հիւանդները ծանո-
թացնել բժիշկներու եւ շատ մը պա-
րագանքներու ճրի կամ նպատաւոր
գինով բուժումներ ապահովել:

Բացի վերոյիշեալ մարզերէն Կեդ-
րոնը հիմնած է նորեկներու համար
Անգլիերէն լեզուի յատուկ դասըն-
թացքներ: Ան կը ծառայէ որպէս տե-
ղեկատու գրասենեակ ինչ կը վերա-
բերի պետական հաստատութիւննե-
րու հասցէներուն եւ հանրային փո-
խադրամիջոցներու ուղղութիւննե-
րուն:

Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերային
Ծառայութեան Կեդրոնը ոչ մէկ խրո-
րականութիւն կը գնէ իրեն դիմող-
ներուն միջեւ եւ առաւելագոյն ճիգը
կ'ընէ բոլորին օգտակար ըլլալու:

Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերային
Ծառայութեան Կեդրոն
Վարիչ Հրաչ Պալիոգեան
5327 Santa Monica Blvd., No. 6
Los Angeles, California
Telephone () 462-8956

ԹԵՀՐԱՆԻ ՊԱՏԱՆԻՆԵՐԻ
ԵՒ ԵՐԻՏԱՍԱՐԴՆԵՐԻ ՀԵՏ

—Թեհրանի Աւետա-

րանական եկեղեցիների երիտասար-
դաց Միութիւնների համահաւանք
տեղի ունեցաւ Հինգշաբթի, 12 Մա-
յիս 1977-ին, կ. յ. ժամը 4:30-ին, Ս.
Թովմաս Ասորի Աւետարանական ե-
կեղեցւոյ: Ներկաների թիւը 70 էր,
որոնք եկել էին Ս. Յովհաննէս Ս.
Թովմաս եւ Փահլաւի Աւետարանա-
կան եկեղեցիներից:

Սկզբում ունեցանք երգեցողու-
թեան մի պահ առաջնորդութեամբ Ս.
Թովմաս եկեղեցւոյ միութեան ա-
ռաջնորդ պր. Ֆրէնկոյն Իսհաղի այս
հոգեւոր երգերը պարսկերէն լեզուով
եղան որը ամէնքին ծանօթ լեզուն է:
Ապա խնդրուեցաւ մեր խումբից որ
հայերէն լեզուով երկու հոգեւոր եր-
գեր երգենք: Մենք երգեցինք «Յի-
սուս աշխարհ եկաւ մեզաւորը փրկե-
լու» եւ «Քրիստոս ի մէջ մեր Յայտ-
նեցաւ» երգերը: Նախքան երգելը
պր. Վարազ Շահմիրեան մեր խում-
բին ատենապետ այս երգին նշանա-
կութիւնը բացատրեց լարսկերէն

լեզուով: Ներկաները շատ ուրախա-
ցան լսելով մեր եռանդուն եւ սիրուն
երգերը:

Երեք եկեղեցիների երիտասարդաց
միութեան ատենապետները իրենց
միութեան գործունէութիւնների մա-
սին տեղեկութիւններ տուին:

Օրուայ պատգամաբերն էր պր.
Մէհրի Միրզահի Փահլաւի Աւետա-
րանական եկեղեցւոյ երիտասարդաց
միութեան առաջնորդ: Նա խնդրեց
որ իւրաքանչիւր եկեղեցւոյ երիտա-
սարդներից մի հոգի Ս. Գրքի ըն-
թերցում անի: Ս. Գրքի ընթերցումը
առնուած էր Ա. Յովհ. 4 եւ 5 գլուխ-
ները եւ ոսկեղէն համարն էր «Ով որ
Որդուն ունի, նա կեանքն ունի. եւ
ով որ Աստուծոյ Որդուն չունի
կեանքը չունի»: Ա. Յովհ. 5:12:



The choir of the Armenian Evangelical Church



On the pulpit from left to right Mr. H. Tagharian, the Rev. K. Demirjian, Dr. G.H. Chopourian and The Rev. M. Kiryakakis.

ՀԱՅ ԱԻԵՏԱՐԱՆՁԱԿԱՆ ԸՆԿԵՐԱԿՑՈՒԹԵԱՆ

Յունաստանի Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցին արժա-
նավայել շուքով տօնեց Մարտ 11-ի յետմիջօրէին Հայ Ա-
ւետարանական Ընկերակցութեան 60-ամեակը, Գոթի-
նիոյ Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցւոյ ժողովարահին
մէջ:

Գօտեպոլիս էր տեսնել ամբողջ յունահայ գաղութը
սոյն հանդիսութեան—յարուանութեանց պետերը եւ ե-
կեղեցական դասը, թեմական խորհուրդը, միութեան,
հաստատութեանց, կազմակերպութեանց ներկայացու-
ցիչները, յոյն թէ օտար հիւրեր եւ հոծ բազմութիւն մը:
Անոնք եկած էին պատուելու եւ իրենց յարգանքը մատու-
ցանելու անգուգական Ընկերակցութեան: Ընկերակցու-
թիւն մը որ 60 տարիներ առանց խտրականութեան ծառա-
յեց եւ կը ծառայէ հայ ժողովուրդին:

Ան ծնաւ օրհնութեան պէս Աստուծոյ կողմէ հայոց
պատմութեան փոթորկալոյց օրերուն, երբ հայը կորսն-
ցուցած էր կեանքի ապահովութիւն, ինչք, հարստութիւն,
բայց իր սրտին խորը դարձնուած էր կրօնի թափալ կամբը եւ
հաւատքը հայ մշակու՝ հաւատք՝ իր խաչեալ Քրիստոսին,
հաւատք՝ իր հայրենիքին: Եւ աւագներէն, մոխիրներէն
յարութիւն առած փիւնիկները, իրենց մայրերէն ժառան-
գած գրքին՝ «Թագուհի Թարգմանութեանց» լոյսէն ա-
ռաջնորդուած հիմնեցին Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկե-
րակցութիւնը:

Այսօր այս Միութեան միլիոնատէր անդամներէն, բա-
րեկեցիկէն մինչեւ ամենահամեստ անդամ այդ ժառան-
գութեան կողքին կը կտակէ երբեմն իր ամբողջ հարստու-
թիւնը, կամ մաս մը եւ կամ «աղքատիկ լուծան» եւ այդ
բոլորը Ընկերակցութիւնը կը վերադարձնէ հայ ժողո-
վուրդին որպէս եկեղեցի, դպրոց, կրթութեան, ըսելով.
«Ինչ որ տուիր կը դարձնեմ զայն քեզի»: Այո, «զայն սի-
րով կ'ընծայէ» բայց չ'ըսեք «Ամբողջն այս է», որովհետեւ
Աւետարանական Ընկերակցութիւնը տակաւին շատ ընե-
լիքներ ունի, եւ իր անխոնջ ղեկավարները լաւագոյնս կը
կատարեն իրենց վստահուած ազգապահպանման, Աս-
տուածահաճոյ առաքելութիւնը:

Հանդիսութիւնը սկսաւ կարճ պաշտամունքով մը:
Վեր. Գ. Տէմիրճեանի բարի գալուստի եւ բացման խօս-
քէն ետք երգիչ խումբը, սիրուած եւ յարգուած խմբա-
վար՝ Պր. Պետրոս Պոյաճեանի ղեկավարութեամբ, յաջող
կերպով երգեց «Փառաբանութեան» երգը:

Ապա խօսք առաւ Յունաց Ա. Աւետարանական եկե-
ղեցւոյ հայասէր հովիւը՝ Վեր. Մ. Քիրեաքաքիս: Ան իր
ունկնդիրները մագնիսացնելու կարողութեամբ դրուա-
տեց հայ ժողովուրդը ընդհանրապէս եւ Հայ Աւետա-
րանական Ընկերակցութիւնը մասնաւորապէս, եւ
յանուն Յունական Աւետարանական եկեղեցիներուն չը-
նորհաւորեց Ընկերակցութիւնը: Օր. Լ. Լանտրու մեծ
ճկունութեամբ նուագեց դասական կտոր մը: Երգչա-
խումբը յաջողութեամբ երգեց «Քեզ պիտի բարձրացնեմ»
եւ «Մեծ է Տէրն» երգերը:

Ապա Վեր. Գ. Տէմիրճեան ներկայացուց սոյն Ընկե-
րակցութեան ժաջան վարիչ-անօրէն՝ Տոքթ. Կ. Զօփուր-



The distinguished audience with all the clergy of Athens and with Archbishop S. Ayvazian (on right) in attendance. (Some do not appear in the picture)

եանը, որ յատկապէս եկած էր իր ազնիւ տիկնոջ հետ ներ-
կայ ըլլալու 60-ամեակի հանդիսութեան:

Նոյնպէս ներկայացուց Տէր եւ Տիկ. Թոքաթեանները,
որոնք իշխանական նուիրատուութիւններ եւ բարե-
րարութիւններ կը կատարեն բազմաթիւ միութիւններու,
եկեղեցիներու եւ Ընկերակցութիւններու:

Տոքթ. Կ. Զօփուրեան իր առաքելութեան արժանաւոր
անձնաւորութիւնն է որ կը վայելէ սէրը եւ յարգանքը
բազմաթիւ հայ թէ օտար միութեանց եւ կազմակերպու-
թեանց:

Վեր. Զօփուրեան, օրուան բուն բանախօսը, ներկայա-
ցուց Ընկերակցութեան գործունէութիւնը թուական
ստեղծանքով եւ անդրադարձաւ 60-ամեակի առթիւ Ըն-
կերակցութեան հետապնդելիք չորս հիմնական նպատակ-
ներուն, որոնք են՝ Հայ մշակոյթը ծանօթացնել օտար-
ներուն, Զարկ տալ Աւետարանի քարոզութեան, Գոյա-
ցնել պատկառելի հիմնադրամ մը, Հայ ժողովուրդին մէջ
համագործակցութեան կապ հաստատել:

Այո, կոչ ըրաւ որ մեր բոլոր բարեսիրական միութիւն-
ները, եկեղեցիները ձեռք ձեռքի տան, գործակցին ի
փոստ Աստուծոյ թագաւորութեան եւ ի բարօրութիւն եւ
միասնականութիւն հայ ժողովուրդին:

Վեր. Գ. Տէմիրճեանի շնորհակալութեան խօսքէն ետք,
Ս. Հօր պահպանիչով եւ երգիչ խումբի «Հայր Մեր» թա-
ռածայն երգեցողութեամբ վերջ գտաւ այս գեղեցիկ հան-
դիսութիւնը:

Բոլոր ներկաները, որոնց կուրծքերը զարդարուած էին
60-ամեակը խորհրդանշող քրքարներով, ծաղկազարդ
սրահէն մեկնեցան այն վստահութեամբ թէ Հայ Աւետա-
րանական Ընկերակցութիւնը տակաւին նուաճելիք բազ-
մաթիւ գործունէութիւններ պիտի կատարէ մինչեւ որ
«հասնինք կատարին»:



Ս.

OBITUARIES



MRS. VICTORIA CHOPOURIAN
1889 - 1979

Mrs. Victoria Chopourian, mother of the Executive Director, Dr. G.H. Chopourian, entered the Church Triumphant on Monday April 23, 1979 at her private residence on Rodney Avenue, Tonbridge, England. Mrs. Chopourian was born in Adana, Cilicia, in 1889, married on March 15, 1912 and emigrated to Cyprus in 1921 where her five children received their High School education in the missionary administered school, the American Academy in Larnaca, Cyprus. She settled in the United Kingdom on February 19, 1964 where her two married daughters had settled. Daughter Zarouhi, graduate nurse and next door to her, was an angel doting over her and caring for all her physical and social needs for fifteen years, with second daughter, a graduate nurse also, assisting for a good many years in cooperation with husbands Arthur and George.

Mrs. Chopourian was a believing member of the Armenian Reformed Presbyterian Church of Larnaca with which church also were affiliated all her children. She was a cherished friend of Mrs. Parouhi Aghababian, the wife of the late minister, the Rev. Siragan Aghababian.

Mrs. Chopourian, self-taught, was steeped in Evangelical thought arising out of her reading of the Holy Bible. It was her spiritual reservoir and she must have read the Bible in its entirety seven times. She drew much wisdom out of the Scriptures, developing a life proportionately balanced between faith and works. She went through much difficulty in life, during the past ten years having been confined to the wheel chair; but she never wavered in her faith nor complained, keeping a positive and smiling outlook on life. As a result of the Turkish treatment of the Armenians many of our compatriots turned Godless—atheistic—on the grounds that a loving God would not have allowed the genocide. Mrs. Chopourian, on the same grounds, leaned closer to God. Her theory was that human nature was sinful and genocides are always possibilities when man has rejected God. She, therefore, believed that she should be fully on God's side in whom was a better hope for humanity. This and other insights of wisdom made her the practical "psychiatrist" of the Armenian Community for many went to her for guidance and sharing.

Her funeral was held on Tuesday, May 1st, 1979 at Christ Church, Tonbridge, Kent, officiated by the pastor, the Reverend Smith. Four of her five children were present at the Service, having come from three different continents. The fifth child was represented by a grandson. The Rev. Smith led a thoughtful Funeral Service with the following testimony:

"It is a privilege to take part in the funeral service of our beloved Armenian sister, Mrs. Victoria Chopourian, because she had such a real trust in Jesus Christ as her Saviour and has therefore journeyed on into the nearer presence of her Lord."

"I realise how sad many of you must be at this human parting and I believe it would be right to say that Mrs. Chopourian knew something of the dilemma which faced St. Paul and is recorded in his Letter to the Philippians: 'I AM PULLED IN TWO DIRECTIONS. I WANT VERY MUCH TO LEAVE THIS LIFE AND BE WITH CHRIST, WHICH IS A FAR BETTER THING; BUT FOR YOUR SAKE IT IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAT I REMAIN ALIVE! (1.23,24) For the nine years that I have known her she

had to rely on a wheelchair, but it seemed to place no limit on her mind or spirit. When I visited her she radiated the love of Jesus and although she and I exchanged few actual words together, the mention of the Name of Jesus could change her facial expression and she would just say 'Aleluia'. For much of her life she belonged to the Presbyterian Church in Cyprus and grew up to know her 'Sourp Kirk' well, recognised it as the way in which God communicates with His people, and found it to be a source of help and inspiration for all the difficulties which she faced in life.

"As far as I am aware she never complained, although she contended with much suffering and showed cheerfulness and courage again and again. She taught me a few Armenian words like 'gu sirem - I love you' and you as members of her family experienced very fully the meaning of that love. But far more importantly she taught me 'shad gu sirem Hisoussu—I love Jesus very much,' and it is because of her love for Jesus that we can be comforted by the words of St. Paul to the Thessalonians: 'WE WANT YOU TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT BE SAD, AS ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NO HOPE. WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN, AND SO WE BELIEVE THAT GOD WILL TAKE BACK WITH JESUS THOSE WHO HAVE DIED BELIEVING IN HIM.' (1 Th.4.13,14)."

It can truly be said of her that she lived a life of faith, hope, love and service.

The Board of Directors extend their sympathies to her children and their spouses, Dr. Giragos and Yeprouhie Chopourian, U.S.A.; Mr. Arthur and Zarouhie Trott, England; Mr. Loutfig and Nevart Chopourian, Cyprus; Mr. Garabed and Patricia Chopourian, Cyprus; Mr. George and Azadouhi Black, England; also to her 12 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren and all immediate kin.

In "lieu of flowers" donations have been added to an existing Haroutune and Victoria Memorial Endowment Fund with the AMAA, the annual proceeds from which are assigned to deserving Armenian students in Cyprus. All such donations will be so used.



DR. YERVANT KETENJIAN

Addressing family and friends, the Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian gave the eulogy at the Memorial Service held on May 19, 1979 for Dr. Yervant Ketenjian. The substantive parts of the eulogy are quoted below.

"Someone very dear and special to all of us has been taken away by our Heavenly Father to be with Him forever. Having fought the good fight, having run the course and having kept the faith, Yervant has been ushered into the land of eternal sunshine and bliss."

"Dr. Yervant Ketenjian, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Garabed Ketenjian, was born on April 15, 1903 in Birejik, Turkish Armenia and inherited a strong and deep evangelical faith with its accompanying Christian values. Because of his keen interest in a good education to serve his people, he was sent to Central Turkey College in Aintab but the tragedy of the Turkish genocide perpetrated on the Armenian population disrupted his plans. Together with his parents he suffered the agonies of deportation, starvation and extreme deprivations."

"To help his family in Aleppo where the parents had settled, he learned tailoring, worked as a tailor, went on to register as Freshman at the American University of Beirut, graduated from its Dental School and practiced dentistry in Aleppo and later in Beirut, Lebanon. An artist in the profession, he was patient, pleasant, easygoing and humorous. As a young boy I was not afraid to sit on his dentist's chair because he used to sing, tell jokes and make me laugh so that by the time I stopped laughing, the job was already done! All his patients will testify to the same 'chair-side' manner."

"In April, 1932 he married Julia

Gulesserian in Beirut and the family was blessed with four children—Ani, Ara, Vera and Dickran—all of whom were raised in the best traditions of the Armenian Evangelical Church. All their children were taught to have high moral and spiritual values and were given opportunities to obtain higher education. Their children have become useful citizens of the community—children of whom they have every reason to be proud."

"In December 1961, Dr. Ketenjian suffered a massive heart attack right at the zenith of his professional career. Very little hope was expressed by his doctors who gave him hope for two years. Of course, they were mistaken. Yervant lived eighteen more years and made them happy, enjoyable and productive by trust in God, excellent self-care, a positive outlook on life and his superb sense of humor, the latter having been used masterfully, whether in prose or poetry, in the entertaining of his grandchildren, augmented by endless stories and jokes. Never depressed and 'uncomplaining,' he cheered up with hope and inspiration those who came to cheer him. He was the 'toastman' of every occasion he was at, his humorous stories and biographical sketches gracing family gatherings, anniversaries, church celebrations and special occasions. He never lost the joy and zest of living, keeping a childlike and eager interest in happy things. His faith in God and in the goodness of man radiated from his face and conversation."

"To make the best of life under worst circumstances; to live a victorious and buoyant life in the face of adversities; to love, to sing, to play and to laugh when everything around is dark; to never give up hope in God and in all the reserves God has placed in us; to be able to look at debilitating sickness at the face and say, 'Get thee behind me'—all these spell out Yervant Ketenjian. The man walking on the streets of Pacific Palisades and greeting everyone with a smile, the man playing with his darling grandchildren and telling them fantastic stories, the man who had learned the secret of living joyously, courageously and nobly is gone away from us, but his memory lingers long in our hearts. We are not sad nor disheartened, because the life he lived is the kind of life that is truly worth living, and such a life shall never die. We shall cherish his memory."

The Board of Directors and the Executive Director, Dr. G.H. Chopourian, who also experienced Yervant's "chair-side" manner, confirm every word of the eulogy and extend their very sincere sympathies to his charming wife Julia who cared for him in self-giving ways; his children, Ani Simonian, wife of Rev. Vahe Simonian, Ara, M.D., Vera and her husband Bos, and Dickran, M.D.; his four grandchildren, Gary, Christopher, Ian and Tania; and to his many relatives and friends. May his blessed memory be kept alive in all of us to our benefit.



MRS. MARY KUMJIAN

Mary (Terzibashian) Kumjian was born in Erzeroum, in 1905. She, with her brother Peter, escaped the Turkish massacre which took the lives of her parents and remaining brothers. She was brought up by the French Missionaries, and as a teen-age girl found herself in an Armenian Catholic Convent in Rome, Italy. She was brought to this country in 1923 by the family of Nasri Kumjian, the latter having become engaged to her by photograph, through the intercession of his parents. The Kouyoumdjian family had immigrated to the USA from Marash. Their son, Nasri, had been in this country since the early 1900's and had served in World War I as an American soldier in the Third Division.

Mary and Nasri were married in 1923, and one child was born to them, Vincent, who is now pastor of the Armenian Memorial Church, in Watertown, Massachusetts.

Mary had been a widow since 1941, and in later years had been seriously ill with open-heart surgery, and various other internal disorders. She died suddenly on January 11, 1979 at home. Her funeral took place in the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown, Mass., and she is buried in the Ridgelawn Cemetery in Watertown. Even though her life was truly burdened, she carried

her own cross very bravely and never lost her faith in Almighty God and His Divine Son, her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A memorial fund has been established in Mrs. Kumjian's memory with an endowment of \$500.00, the income from which will be used for the education of Armenian orphan children. Contributions in her memory will be added to the endowed fund to augment its effectiveness.

The Board of Directors extend their sincere sympathies to the Reverend Vincent Koumjian knowing full well that His faith will sustain him.



DR. SOUREN TASHIAN
1895 - 1979

Memorial services for Dr. Souren Hagop Tashian, an Armenian from Turkey who practiced medicine in Washington state for nearly 50 years, were held March 24 in the Broadview Community Church, Seattle.

"He always had the feeling in life for helping people," his wife, Margaret, said.

Dr. Tashian, 84, died at home March 23 after a long illness. He had practiced actively until just six years ago.

Dr. Tashian was a leader in a Seattle unit of the Committee of Responsibility, a national organization "to save war-burned and war-injured Vietnamese children" in the late 60s and 70s.

Tashian was co-chairman of the Seattle group along with Drs. Edward P. Palmason and George B. Hill. They raised money to bring injured Vietnamese children to this country, found foster homes for them while they were here and arranged for extensive reconstructive surgery for their wounds.

Dr. Tashian was born in Smyrna, Turkey, in 1895, the son of an Armenian Congregational minister. He was

graduated from the International College in Smyrna and received his medical education at St. Mary's Hospital, London, and the graduate school of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

He came to Washington state in 1924 and practiced in Dayton, Columbia County, before coming to Seattle in 1931.

Having once been jailed in Turkey, he was sensitive to the persecution of Armenians there and in other Near East countries.

His wife said that Dr. Tashian sent "four or five thousand packages of clothing to Armenian refugees in Greece in 1940" and the couple sponsored several Armenian students at the University of Washington.

Dr. Tashian was contributor to the AMAA and AGBU, chiefly for educational causes. He also was a member of the King County, Washington state and American Medical Associations, Northwest and American Proctologic Societies, Kiwanis, College Club, United World Federalists, United Nations and Amnesty International.

Besides his wife and sister, Dr. Tashian is survived by his son, Edward, of Seattle.

Dr. Tashian's benevolence extended to the immigration of Armenian youth for study in the United States. He helped seven such students in four universities in the country. For the interest of the Armenian public, we list these students below:-

Perry Vartanian — Univ. of Virginia; Attorney and author of legal textbooks; now retired and living in Menlo Park, California.

Sarkis Arakelian — Univ. of Virginia; Architect; Schenectady, New York (deceased).

Harry Casparian — Univ. of Virginia; Attorney; Rochester, New York (deceased).

Hagop Gasparian — Univ. of Virginia; Doctor of Medicine (deceased).

Sarkis Peltekian — Univ. of Washington (1945); Textile Engineer; also studied at Lowell Textile institute in Massachusetts. Now manufactures gas mantles in his own plant in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mary Bodourian — Michigan State Univ. (1945); Nurse; now Mrs. Richard Ungren of Lansing, Michigan.

Isaia (Yesso) Tekerian — Univ. of Washington (1965); Aeronautical Engineer; from Kenya, Nairobi; now with United Airlines in San Francisco, Calif.



SATENIG KURKYASHARIAN

Mrs. Satenig Kurkyasharian, wife of the late Samuel Kurkyasharian, entered her eternal rest towards the end of 1978 in Beirut, Lebanon.

The Kurkyasharians, Hadjintzis, labored extensively in the Armenian Evangelical world both before their self exile into Lebanon from Cilician Armenia and after their settlement in Beirut. They were genuinely involved in the life of the churches but more specifically in the life of the school in Nor Hadjin. Both looked upon the educational institution like the 'apple of their eye' and served it devotedly.

The Kurkyasharians were very faithful evangelicals, their faith being exuberant and yet practical. They were loving people willing to make sacrifices for their Armenian compatriots.

The Kurkyasharians have willed their estate in the form of their residence to the Armenian Missionary Association of America. The Association will be establishing a Fund in their name on receipt of the proceeds from the estate when things settle down in Lebanon.



JOHN SHARABJIAN

1891 - 1978

John was born during those terrible days in Jashkal, Turkish Armenia on May 22, 1891 when Armenians were discriminated against, and died on Friday, August 18, 1978.

Twice-escaped from the Turkish

Army whose leaders treated Armenians as slaves, John was miraculously saved from the firing squad for the first of fence and protected and saved by his friends, relatives and the American Missionaries from the second who sheltered him by hiding him and helping him to sail to Patras, Greece from where he immigrated to the United States of America, arriving in New York harbor on the vessel "Martha Washington" on May 2, 1913.

Again John was in the army, only this time he was *happy* to enlist even if it was to go to France to fight at the historic battle of Verdun. Honorably discharged at the completion of war in 1919 after 15 months, John returned to marry Haiganoosh Keishian on February 7, 1920 in the Armenian Congregational Church with the Reverend Aram S. Yeretjian officiating. Their marriage was blessed with a baby girl who was retarded. John and Haiganoosh took excellent care of her with utmost devotion for 57 years, doing the best they could.

Both John and Haiganoosh were faithful, staunch and active members of the Gethsemane Armenian Congregational Church, Haiganoosh serving in the Ladies Aid in the capacity of either President or Secretary or cook and John as deacon. When the church split, they remained with the original church which later joined with the Masis Church to constitute the present United Armenian Congregational Church. They saw and helped build two new churches, one built on Hobart near Washington in Los Angeles and the other the present building on Cahuenga Boulevard, Hollywood. Their church attendance was interrupted seven years ago when John had his first stroke followed by more strokes leading to his death in August about three months after the death of his wife on May 13, 1978. Even during their illness, they supported their beloved church with their prayers and pocket book. During all their illness, whether at home, hospital or Convalescent Home their daughter, Grace Paloutzian, was a guardian angel beyond description meeting their needs with loving care and devotion.

"The Lord giveth and taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord"

John is survived by his two daughters, Esther Sharabjian and Grace Paloutzian, a grandson, Phil Paloutzian, granddaughters, Chris Ashkarian and Karen Gilbert and six great grandchildren.



Avedis Zildjian flanked by sons Armand and Robert (left)

AVEDIS ZILDJIAN

World-renowned cymbal maker, Avedis Zildjian, succumbed Feb. 8th at age 90, marking "the end of an era in percussion."

William F. Ludwig, Jr., President of the Ludwig Drum Co. of Chicago, in eulogizing Mr. Zildjian, said "His contributions and those of other industry contemporaries such as Joseph Rogers, Sr., H.H. Slingerland, Sr., Fred Gretsch, Ulysses G. Leedy and his own father, William F. Ludwig, helped to launch the music industry in America. "The death of Avedis Zildjian," he said, "marks the end of an era in percussion because he was the last of the original founders of the percussion manufacturing business."

Mr. Ludwig explained that prior to his time, the cymbal was thought of chiefly as a marching instrument, which greatly restricted its use. Mr. Zildjian made cymbals larger, thinner and more musical consequently, they could be adapted to the popular music of the day. As a result, the cymbal became an integral part of a drummer's set-up.

He worked very closely with the drummers of the thirties and forties, including such personalities as: Chick Webb, Gene Krupa, Dave Tough, Jo Jones, Zutty Singleton, Cozy Cole, George Wettling, Ray Bauduc, Buddy Rich and other highly respected drummers of the day. Through experimentation, Zildjian was able to give the drummers what they were looking for.

Charles Alden, owner of Alden Music Company, Westwood, MA remembered Mr. Zildjian as a dynamic businessman who literally created a market for this new type of cymbal. "I can recall him visiting customers with a stack of cymbals under his arm." But that was decades ago, when he was building up a fledgling business working out of a small factory in Quincy, MA, which Mr. Zildjian opened in

1929 in the face of the depression.

Mr. Zildjian came to the U.S. from Istanbul in 1908, at 19, after realizing he was not the heir apparent to the secret formula for making cymbals. In 1927, however, he was informed by his uncle, Aram, that he was to inherit the family business.

Avedis Zildjian was a vital man, who remained active in the daily operation of the business right up until his death. He maintained a rigorous schedule as chairman of the board, as well as personally overseeing the regular preparation of the secret metal alloy used in producing every Zildjian cymbal.

He was married to the former Alice 'Sally' Goodale and they had two sons, Armand A. and Robert. Both have also been active in the business operations of the company and will continue to run the family business with assistance from the younger Robert Avedis (Rab) Zildjian, who represents the third generation of Zildjians in this country. Other members of his family will remember the "G.P.," as he was affectionately called by his grandchildren, for his warmth, generosity, strong will and his affable story telling about life in Europe and in the America of the early 1900s.

Mr. Zildjian cared deeply about his Armenian heritage. He was founding president of the Armenian Benevolent Union of America, Inc. and was honored for his contributions to American business by the Armenian Bicentennial Committee. He also was a member of the Order of Masons AF&AM, the American Legion and the Quincy Neighborhood and Yacht Clubs.

To the percussion world, Avedis Zildjian leaves a legacy of unsurpassed quality and excellence, emanating from a cymbal-making mystique that MIT scientists, despite all their technological proficiency, could never understand. Fortunately, the value of his contributions will continue to be immortalized by the millions of professional and amateur percussionists worldwide who have come to respect the superior quality of Zildjian Cymbals.

OBITUARIES

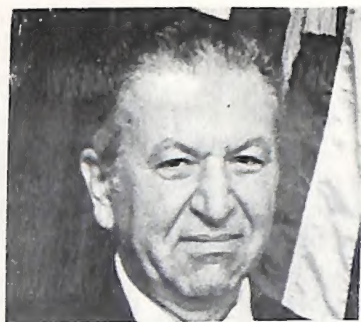
The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

*Mrs. Marie S. Chobanian
Los Angeles, CA

*Mrs. Verkin Hekimian
Miami, FL

1978

(continued on page 22, col. 3)



NOUBAR M. DADOURIAN

Noubar M. Dadourian of Rockville, Md., a printing specialist and assistant chief of the planning section of the Government Printing Office, Washington D.C., died on March 21, 1979 at Subarban Hospital in Bethesda after suffering a stroke.

Noubar was born in Marzovan, Armenia and moved to Philadelphia with his family as a child in 1923. After serving in the Pacific with the Navy in World War II, he worked as a journeyman printer in Philadelphia and Scranton, Pa., until moving to the Washington D.C.

Noubar was active in various organizations. As a Mason, he had dual membership in Montgomery Lodge No. 195 of Rockville and King Solomon Lodge No. 31 of D.C.; was a past High Priest of James F. Allen Chapter No. 33 of Royal Arch Masons and served as Secretary till his death. He was also a member of Montgomery Commandery No. 13, King Solomon Council No. 13, Montgomery Forest No. 134-Tall Cedars of Lebanon and Montgomery Chapter No. 93, Order of Eastern Star.

He was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Rockville United Methodist Church.

Noubar, always smiling, kind and loving to his kindred, faithful and loyal gave of his friendship, his time and his talents in a manner befitting his Christian spirit.

He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Bedrosian now residing in her home in Rockville, Md.; two sons, Alan R. of Silver Springs and David W. of Rockville; a brother, Berj, and two sisters, Arpine Jeryan and Virginia Mangasarian all of the Philadelphia area.

Expression of sympathy were in the form of contributions to the AMAA, Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children-Philadelphia Unit and the Rockville United Methodist Church. Interment was in Rockville Cemetery.

The Board of Directors and the Officers of the A.M.A.A. extend their sympathies and wish Mary God's peace which passeth all understanding.



HAGOP YAGHSIZIAN

The Memorial service for Mr. Hagop Yaghsizian, beloved husband of Ephronia Yaghsizian and father of Lucy, Arnold and Dorothy, took place in the Armenian Memorial Church he so much loved and in which he was deeply involved. He and his wife were often referred to as Goodwill Ambassadors as they ministered to shutins, the sick, the newcomers, and the needy as Deacons.

The Editor wishes to quote from the eulogy message written by his former Pastor, the Reverend Dr. Vahan Tootikian:

"Those of us who were associated with Hagop Yaghsizian were aware of his wonderful personal qualities — his faith, Christian outlook, optimism, kindness and deep concern for human needs. A noble, devoted husband and father and a gentle-spirited man, he was loved by all who knew him."

"His warm smile and affectionate voice cannot be forgotten. His friends knew that when need arose, he was and would be available at any hour of day and night, for he believed that the more he gave of himself to others, the more will be returned to him in terms of personal satisfaction."

"In word and in deed, Hagop sought to lighten the burdens of all people, irrespective of race or religion, color, or creed. His many friends, black and white, Armenian and odor — from Roxbury to Watertown, from Hull to Boston — could testify to this. Warm, with a smiling disposition, Hagop radiated an inner strength that touched everyone he met. His absence will be constantly felt not only by his immediate family but perhaps as much by his many friends who have known him for many years."

An Endowment Fund has been established in Hagop Yaghsizian's memory and all "in lieu of flowers" donations have been added to the fund. The Board of Directors extend their gratitude along with their sincere sympathies to Mrs. Yaghsizian and her three children.

(Continued from page 21)

*Mr. Edward Jenanyan Walnut Creek, CA	1978
*Mrs. Satenig Kurkyasharian Beirut, Lebanon	1978
*Mrs. Lucy Sourenian Alhambra, CA	July, 1978
*Mr. Hagop Ghourgourian Lawrence, MA	Oct., 1978
*Mr. Hagop Yaghsizian Hull, MA	Dec. 28
*Mrs. Lucy Nazarian Evanston, IL	1979
*Mr. Minas Yaghjian Rhode Island	1979
Mr. Jacob Zartarian Everett, MA	March 9, 1979
Mrs. Julia Apkarian Methuen, MA	Feb., 1979
Mrs. Berjanoush Babigian Downey, CA	Feb., 1979
Mr. John Parsekian Fort Lee, NJ	Feb., 1979
Mr. Avedis Zildjian Norwell, MA	Feb. 8, 1979
Mrs. Manoush Danielian Methuen, MA	Feb. 26, 1979
*Mr. Toros Miller Watertown, MA	Feb. 26, 1979
Mrs. Gladys Deovlet Los Angeles, CA	March, 1979
*Mr. Carl B. Melikian Fresno, CA	March, 1979
Mrs. Sarah Sarkisian Fresno, CA	March, 1979
*Dr. H. Surunian Worcester, MA	March, 1979
*Mr. Noubar M. Dadourian Bethesda, MD	March 21, 1979
Mr. Joseph Hagopian Belmar, NJ	March 29, 1979
*Mr. Joe Aved Burbank, CA	April, 1979
Mrs. Adrine Geldadian Cliffside Park, NJ	April, 1979
*Mr. Jeffrey Postian Lambeth, Canada	April, 1979
*Mrs. Agnes Haigouhi Mgrditchian Greater Detroit, MI	April 18, 1979
*Mr. Hurant Harikian Lake Tahoe, NV	April 25, 1979
*Mrs. Victoria Chopourian Tonbridge, England	April 23, 1979
Mrs. Virginia Aivazian Fresno, CA	May, 1979
Mr. Hagop Danielian CA	May, 1979
*Dr. Yervant G. Ketenjian Los Angeles, CA	May 15, 1979
George Bashian Manhasset, NY	May 21, 1979
*Signifies that memorials were designated for AMAA.	

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